

Lucy Kubiszyn, Editor June 14, 1993

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SHELTON TO OFFER NEW CLASSES THROUGH TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

The classroom at Branch Heights Community Center, a federally funded housing project, is one of the first programs of its type in the United States. Opened three years ago by Shelton State Community College, Branch Heights is located at South Prairie Ave. in Eutaw, AL and enrolls approximately 75-100 students each semester.

Over the past several years, classes have been offered during the evening and on weekends at the center. This summer, however, Shelton State Community College will offer, in addition to Branch Heights' regular classes, a number of new classes through the telecommunications network.

"We are proud to pilot a concept that supplies so basic a need, yet something that can make a major difference in the lives and future of public housing residents," said Steve Wilson, executive director of the Green County Housing Authority. This telecommunications center will allow our young adults as well as children in our community to have full access to the education they will need in order to be successful," said Wilson.

This summer Shelton will also teach commercial truck driving through its technical/vocational program. In Eutaw, Frank Smith works to recruit and to counsel students who are interested in the truck driving program.

Under this new telecommunications network, students who have concentrated on building skills through remedial and introductory courses will be able to get advanced courses that lead directly to a vocational certificate or associate degree, according to Wilson.

"We are considering inviting the Alabama State Employment Service, Area Vocational Rehabilitation Service, Skills Center program, Social Security office, Veterans Affairs, and others to take advantage of the telecommunications link. We believe it will improve access to services as well as reduce commuting time by agency personnel and clients," said Wilson. In addition to direct classroom instruction, Shelton State's telecommunications link is connected to international information systems via satellite. The college plans to down-link a variety of educational programs that will benefit students, teachers, as well as community and business leaders.

SHELTON STATE ANNOUNCES SUMMER AUDITIONS FOR MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Summer auditions for Shelton State Community College Performing Arts Scholarships in music will be held on June 25. Auditions are by appointment and students interested in auditioning should obtain an application from the dean of students office or by contacting Syble Coats, 391-2270. Deadline for applying is June 16.

Nine students from area high schools have already been named scholarship recipients for the program. The students who have already been named Performing Arts recipients in music are: Rosemary Guffin, Central High School; Christopher McBucie, Holt High School; Tara Reynolds, Bibb Gounty High School; Angie Wyatt, Southern Academy; Lanette Stroup, Tuscaloosa County High School; Janice Emfinger, Hillcrest High School; Kathy Tucker, Tuscaloosa County High School; Lisa Blewitt, French Camp Academy.

KIDS KOLLEGE TO BE HELD AT SHELTON STATE THIS SUMMER

Kids Kollege, an enrichment program for children and teens, is a new series of classes that will be offered this summer by the continuing education program at Shelton State Community College in cooperation with The Shelton State Foundation.

These classes will be held on Shelton State's Fifteenth Street Campus under the direction of June Hogue, director of continuing education, and R. S. Miller, program director. Enrollment in each of the enrichment classes is limited to no more than four students. Informal assessments will be made to determine level and progress. Classes schedule to be offered are: Reading enrichment, grade 1-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8; reading tutorial grades 1-2, 3-5 and 6-8; Math enrichment, grade 2-3, and tutorial grades 4-5; Handwriting and fine motor skills are for grade 1-6 and Keyboarding for grades 7-12. Also, Algebra I Enrichment for non-credit will be offered from 11 a.m.-12 noon.

SHELTON STATE TO OPEN CLASSROOM AT MCKENZIE COURT

This summer Shelton State Community College will initiate a new pilot program in order to take educational services to people in West Alabama who have, in many instances, been left out of the formal education process.

Working through the C. A. Fredd Campus, a classroom will be established at McKenzie Court, a federally funded Tuscaloosa housing project. Classes will be offered there beginning this summer and will be designed to reach high risk populations.

This summer's program will be non-credit and will be offered free to people over the age of 60. There will also be some classes designed especially for children. The short mini session scheduled during July and August will include introductory seminars. During the summer months, college personnel will also access the interests of McKenzie Court residents in order to determine what types of courses to offer in the future.

In the fall, the classes will be expanded to include people with low income, high school dropouts, teenage mothers and single women who are heads of households. Future plans call for the college to offer credit, developmental, and technical courses at McKenzie Court. These classes will be open to residents in the housing project as well as other people living in the West End Community.

Classes offered at McKenzie Court will be taught through distance learning and Shelton State's telecommunications system. Shelton State is the first two year college in Alabama to be involved with a technologically 'pure' process of distance learning and is a member of a network of institutions serving West Alabama. Shelton State's Skyland campus continues to be the hub in the institution's distance learning program. Shelton's Fifteenth Street, Fredd and Eutaw campuses along with Stillman College and several local industries are part of the network. Shelton State continues to be the only college in the state to offer college classes in housing projects. Only one other community college in the United States offers classes in this manner. As a pilot project, the classroom at McKenzie will be funded through a community based organization grant.

SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS FOR NEW COLLEGE CAMPUS

Tom Umphrey, President, announced last Wednesday that two Alabama architectural firms and a Tuscaloosa engineering firm will develop and design the college's new campus.

David Volkert & Associates, Inc. of Mobile has been chosen by the college to be the lead architectural firm for the master plan and design of the new campus. Providing assistance in the building and landscape design is PH&J Architects of Montgomery. Assisting with the construction and providing civil engineering services for the project is the local firm of Hankins and Harrison Engineering Inc. of Tuscaloosa.

"Shelton State has chosen these two architectural firms to lead the way in the design of a master plan for our new campus for several reasons. This is the first two year college to be built in the state in over 25 years. Because of the massiveness of the project, we believe it is advantageous for the college to draw on the strengths of these two outstanding architectural firms. This is indeed a historic occasion for the college. When built, Shelton State's new campus will provide a positive economic impact for the entire West Alabama area," said Umphrey. "Over the past four decades, Shelton State Community College has provided educational services to the people of this area. A new campus has been our dream for many years, and we have worked hard to get to this point."